पारलैङ्गिक अधिकार समूह
Trans Rights Collective (TRC)
यिगामि वां खलः

A loose network of young trans men & trans women, based in Nepal since 27 Sept. 2020 [transrightscollective@gmail.com]

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National Census 2021 and transgender people

We would like to draw everyone's attention to this situation that despite time and again petitioning the relevant authorities on inclusion of transgender people in the coming National Census of Nepal 2021, our voices have been disregarded, and when we saw no other option, we knocked the doors of the Supreme Court. However, in past five months we only received hearing dates for interim order discussion, and while the census starts in a few days, all we received is another hearing date, which is after the conclusion of the census.

The census has denied us of our gender identity, by defining transgender people as 'other gender' and forcefully categorizing / defining us as neither man nor woman. We have time and again put forth our concerns to respective authorities. We had also recommended to create the questionnaire that does not deny transgender people of their gender identity and also enable data collection of transgender people. All of our concerns were discarded. The government has not institutionalized an erroneous definition, but also denied transgender people from their gender identity. In Nepali societies, transgender people are seen with negative connotations, and revealing anyone's trans status may result in life-death situations to many of us. The census methodology completely disregards the need of sensitivity in collecting data about people's trans status.

The Central Bureau of Statistics, with this erroneous definition, has not only pushed for a long-term institutionalization of misconceptions, but has also created a backlash for the transgender rights movement.

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